



MEMORANDUM
from the
Department of Parks & Recreation

Date: 11-17-2025

To: Christine Brady
Assistant County Manager

From: Mack Young
Director, Parks & Recreation

SUBJECT: Conservation 20/20 FY2024-2025 Annual Report

Please find attached a report documenting land acquisitions, large projects and overall land management during Fiscal Year 2024-2025 for the Lee County Conservation 20/20 program.

cc: Kathy Loomis, Deputy Director, Parks & Recreation
Lisa Weaver, Strategic Operation Manager, Parks & Recreation

CONSERVATION 20/20 ANNUAL REPORT

FY2024-2025 (October 2024-September 2025)

OVERVIEW

Total acreage to date	31,721.97
Total acquisitions to date	173
Total preserves to date	52
Total price of purchases to date	\$407,117,551.99

I. ACQUISITIONS

<i>Location</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Nomination</i>	<i>Date acquired</i>
CREW	5	642	12/19/2024
CREW	5	647	1/6/2025
Charlotte Habor Buffer Preserve	2	129-3	1/15/2025
Columbus G. McLeod Preserve	11.85	640	2/6/2025
CREW	2.5	545-5	2/7/2025
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve (Bayside)	10.03	631	2/13/2025
Moody River Preserve	40	629	2/28/2025
Orange River Blvd Preserve	129.61	650	6/11/2025
CREW	2.5	635	7/2/2025
CREW	5	645	7/9/2025
Total	213.49		
Total Cost	\$20,090,266.83		

II. FINANCIALS (as of end of fiscal year)

Current acquisition fund balance	\$19,226,406
Cost of property purchased during FY2023-2024	\$20,090,266.83
Management fund balance	\$90,678.23

III. LAND MANAGEMENT

A. Large projects initiated or completed- Exotic control projects

<i>Location</i>	<i>Acreage</i>	<i>Initiated</i>	<i>Completed/expiration</i>
Alva Scrub Preserve	288 acre exotic treatment	7/7/25	8/21/25
Buckingham Park	88 acres, Mitigation area	12/6/24	1/5/25
Buckingham Park	Mitigation area- 2 nd treatment	6/30/25	8/30/25
Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve	115 acres, Partial treatment	4/14/25	8/12/25
Cow Slough	24 acres; mitigation area	7/7/25	1/29/26

Hancock Creek Preserve	22 acres	5/1/25	9/15/25
Imperial Marsh Preserve	232 acres; mitigation area	4/28/25	6/23/25
Imperial Marsh Preserve	447 acres- double treatment	5/10/24	12/10/24
Koreshan Preserve	38 acres	5/6/25	12/31/25
Persimmon Ridge	40 acres	3/4/24	11/4/24
Pop Ash Creek Preserve	307 acres; Entire site	6/15/24	10/15/24
Powell Creek Preserve	56 acres	5/1/25	9/15/25
Prairie Pines Preserve	288 acres	4/23/25	7/26/25
Six Mile Cypress	390 acres; units 1,2,3; mitigation area	4/1/25	9/13/25
Wild Turkey Strand Preserve	5 acres; mitigation area	6/16/25	12/31/25
Yellow Fever Creek Preserve	339 acres	7/1/24	6/30/25
Yucca Pens Preserve	69 acres	4/14/25	10/31/25
Total Acres Treated	2,748 acres		

B. Large projects initiated or completed- Restoration/fencing/other projects

<i>Location</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Initiated</i>	<i>Completed/expiration</i>
Alva Scrub Preserve	Fence install	2024	2025
Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve East	Replace portion of the trails with board walks and accessible walkways. Construction Phase.	2021	Sept 2025
Hancock Creek Preserve	Fence installation and row clearing	2024	2025
Moody River Preserve	Fence removal and replacement	2025	2025
Oak Creek Preserve	Fencing installation and walkthrough gate	2024	2025
Oak Hammock Preserve	Land management plan	2024	2025
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve	Environmental work and CEI, Shrimp pond restoration project	March 2024	2026
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve	Fence replacement	2023	2024
Prairie Pines Preserve	Fence replacement	2025	2025
Six Mile Cypress Slough North	Electric gate installation		2025
Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve	Split Rail fence replacement	2024	July 2024
Various Preserves	Hurricane damaged fencing repairs and replacements. (update for estero fence)	2024	TBD
Wild Turkey Strand Preserve	Replace portion of the trails with board walks and accessible walkways. Permitting phase.	2021	TBD
Yucca Pens Preserve	Fence replacement	2024	2025

Total Spent from Management Fund FY 2024-2025 (Sections A and B): \$1,416,265.77

C. Partner Projects

<i>Location</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Partner</i>	<i>Initiated</i>	<i>Completed/expiration</i>
Bob Janes Preserve	Lee County Community Development developed a long-term gopher tortoise recipient site. Phase 1 complete, expansion of the area to come.	Community Development	2023	2025
Bob Janes Preserve	Hydrologic improvements to divert flows via addition of diversion structures, berms, ditches, and ditch blocks to provide passive and native means to reduce pollutants. Bidding for construction in process.	Natural Resources	2018	TBD
Larry Kiker Preserve	Stormwater management design phase.	Natural Resources	2022	TBD
Telegraph Creek Preserve	Well installation. Permitting phase.	Utilities	2021	TBD
Frank Mann Preserve	Stormwater management design, permitting, and construction	LAMSID	2025	2028

D. Funding received

<i>Location</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Project</i>	<i>Funding source</i>	<i>Status</i>	<i>FY</i>
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve	\$125,000	Shrimp Pond Restoration	CHNEP	Implementation	23/24

E. Prescribed burns

<i>Location</i>	<i>Acres burned</i>	<i>Date</i>
Bob Janes Preserve	73	11/19/2024
Charolotte Harbor Buffer Preserve	76	1/30/2025
Gator Hole Preserve	46	2/6/2025
Gator Hole Preserve	29	2/19/2025
TOTAL	224 acres	

F. Feral hog removal

<i>Location</i>	<i>Hogs removed</i>
Alva Scrub Preserve	34
Bob Janes Preserve	417
Buckingham Trails Preserve	24
Buckingham Park	0
Charlotte Harbor Buffer Preserve	0
Daniels Preserve at Spanish Creek	16
Pop Ash Creek Preserve	0

Six Mile Cypress Preserve North	145
Six Mile Cypress Slough Preserve	24
Smokehouse Bay Preserve	6
Telegraph Creek Preserve	20
Yellow Fever Creek Preserve	23
Yucca Pens Preserve	63
Wa-Ke-Hatchee Park	8
Caloosahatchee Creeks Preserve	0
Caloosahatchee Regional Park	0
Hickey Creek Mitigation Park	20
Prairie Pines Preserve	125
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve	0
Imperial Marsh Preserve	0
Oak Hammock Preserve	8
Powell Creek Preserve	0
TOTAL	933

IV. PUBLIC ACCESS

Amenities maintained

Marked hiking trails	132.4 miles
Fire line trails	56.95 miles
Equestrian trails	58 miles
Bicycling trails	23.5 miles
Paddle craft launches/landings	4
Paved/gravel parking entrances	17

V. UPCOMING FISCAL YEAR (FY2024-2025 and beyond)

Large projects (upcoming and ongoing) include:

<i>Location</i>	<i>Project</i>
Larry Kiker Preserve	Design of preserve amenities.
Frank Mann Preserve	Design of preserve amenities.
Wild Turkey Strand Preserve	Trail improvement project
Pine Island Flatwoods Preserve	Shrimp Pond Restoration project
Multiple Locations	Passive recreation enhancements: Oak Hammock Preserve, West Marsh Preserve, Four Mile Cove Preserve, and Pine Lak Preserve.
Land Management Plans	New preserve land management plans to be completed, various preserves.

Acronyms:

CEI- Construction Engineering and Inspection

CHNEP- Coastal & Heartland National Estuary Partnership

CREW- Corkscrew Regional Ecosystem Watershed

FY- Fiscal Year

LAMSID- Lehigh Acres Municipal Service Improvement District